

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Nepal: Flood and Landslide

DREF operation n° MDRNP003
GLIDE n° [FL-2009-000291-NPL](#)
Update n° 3
29 March 2010

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

Period covered by this update: 7
January to 9 March 2010.

CHF 307,240 (USD 302,858 or EUR202,870) was allocated from the International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 19 October 2009 to support the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to 4,000 families with non-food relief item sets as well as to replenish disaster preparedness stocks distributed to the affected population. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: The late monsoon rains in October 2009 caused heavy floods and landslides in Nepal affecting 14 districts in the mid- and far- western regions. Kailali, Bardiya, Banke, Dadeldhura, Achham and Kanchanpur were the worst hit districts. The disaster claimed 79 lives and injured 62 people, affecting 257,000 people (46,800 families), and displacing more than 18,300 people (3,300 families).

In response, the NRCS deployed more than 350 trained volunteers and staff to provide immediate assistance to the affected population. The teams carried out emergency assessments and provided ready to eat food, emergency shelter and non-food relief items as well as first aid services to the injured. They were also actively involved in search and rescue and evacuation operations in collaboration with other local stakeholders in the districts, mainly with the government district disaster relief committees (DDRC). Following this, the NRCS conducted more detailed assessments of the affected areas and distributed non-food relief item sets (including tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen sets and cloth sets) to the most affected families, providing one set per family. These efforts were conducted in close coordination with the Government of Nepal, other international humanitarian organizations and local agencies.



A Nepal Red Cross Society volunteer distributing food items to the flood affected people in Banke district. Photo: Nepal Red Cross Society.

This DREF supports the NRCS to replenish 4,000 non-food relief item sets and prepare for future disasters. To date, the NRCS has distributed a total of 4,101 non-food relief item sets to the most affected families, and thus has fully met the target distribution of 4,000 non-food relief item sets. The NRCS is at final stages of completing the local procurement of 4,000 replacement non-food relief item sets.

During the reporting period, the NRCS refilled stocks in the regional warehouses, located in Mahendranagar and Nepalgunj through the central warehouse located in Kathmandu. Monitoring visits were also organized to the target districts. In addition, the national society organized a lessons learnt workshop on 3-4 March in Nepalgunj. The workshop was crucial to explore learning from the emergency operations, to make recommendations for future actions and to discuss shelter cluster coordination on which the NRCS is taking a lead role.

The operation is coming to its end and will be completed by 19 April 2010. In line with the International Federation reporting standards, a final report will be available three months after the end of the operation (by 19 July 2010).

The Netherlands Red Cross Society/Netherlands government has contributed EUR 20,000 (CHF 30,193) towards the replenishment of the DREF for the allocation made to this operation. This is in addition to the contribution of CAD 50,000 (CHF 49,703) received from the Canadian government in the replenishment of the same allocation.

The International Federation, on behalf of the Nepal Red Cross Society, would like to thank all donors and partners for their generous support to DREF.

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The situation

Torrential rains starting from the beginning of October 2009 caused floods and landslides in the mid- and far-western regions of Nepal, affecting 257,000 people (46,800 families). A total of 79 people were killed, 62 people injured, while more than 18,300 people (3,300 families) were displaced due to the disaster.

Geographically, the affected areas were widely dispersed across the country and access remained a challenge due to their remote location and limited road network. Nevertheless, the Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) was able to provide immediate assistance to the affected population, including the distribution of non-food relief items, through its wide network of volunteers present in the communities.

The Government of Nepal, particularly through its district disaster relief committees (DDRC), has been coordinating the relief operation at field level. The government allocated NRs 150 million (CHF 2,019,211 or USD 2,002,670) for staple food distribution (20 kg rice and 1 kg salt per family), health, water, sanitation and early recovery activities, implemented through DDRC and other government line offices in the affected districts. The NRCS supported the delivery of food items from the DDRC's depot to the affected Village Development Committees (VDCs). Government offices in the affected districts also established health camps and organised the renovation of the water and sanitation units. Other international and local non-government organizations have also been involved in the relief operation.

The situation has now returned to normal in most of the affected areas and displaced people have returned to their original homes and locations. However, some of these areas are still vulnerable to future flooding and landslides. In particular, Kailali and Kanchanpur districts have been hit by seasonal floods on an annual basis since 2007. The NRCS launched a recovery programme in those districts in 2008 to address the shelter, water and sanitation needs of those displaced families, which will also cover the water and sanitation needs of some of the families affected by these recent 2009 floods.

Coordination and partnerships

NRCS is the leading humanitarian organization for the distribution of emergency shelter and non-food relief items during disasters in Nepal. The national society has been working as an auxiliary to the Government of Nepal, particularly as an ex-officio member of the Nepal government's Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee (CNDRC), headed by the country's Ministry of Home Affairs. Likewise, NRCS district chapters are members of the DDRC in their respective districts, headed by the government chief district officer.



A Nepal Red Cross Society volunteer distributing food items to the flood affected people in Banke district. Photo: Nepal Red Cross Society.

During this disaster, NRCS national headquarters coordinated with central level government agencies, the International Federation and other national level stakeholders to secure prompt response and fill the gaps observed at the district level, including through participation in the inter-agency standing committee meetings coordinated by UN OCHA. The Ministry of Home Affairs has also organized four national level meetings, involving NRCS, to discuss and make action plans for the response and recovery efforts. The last meeting reviewed the operation and explored possibilities to generate resources for recovery activities.

Similarly, the NRCS district chapters coordinated their activities with government agencies (like DDRCs, VDCs, district education offices and district health offices), international

agencies such as Care Nepal, Save the Children, UN agencies and World Vision International, and local agencies such as Christian Relief Fund, Community Development Centre, Dalit Sewa Sangh, Mercy Corps, Peace win, S Nepal, Sam Development Centre, and Women Jagaran Centre. Regular coordination meetings were also held at the district level.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Since the onset of the flooding and landslides, the NRCS district chapters in the affected areas mobilized more than 350 trained volunteers and some staff for emergency situation assessments and provided prompt relief assistance to the affected population.

The NRCS national headquarters activated the emergency operation centre within the disaster management department and provided financial support to each of the district chapters in the most-affected areas for the mobilization of volunteers, coordination of relief activities, distribution relief goods and maintenance of communications.

NRCS emergency assistance included the distribution of ready-to-eat food (locally collected), shelter and non-food relief items, and delivery of first aid services to the affected population. In addition, the NRCS worked together with government and other non-governmental organizations (Care Nepal, Community Development Centre, Gangotri Gramin Bikash Mancha, Peace win, Sam Development Centre, Save the Children and Walk Achham) to support the affected districts.

The details of the ready-to-eat food and other food items distribution are given in the table below.

S.N.	District	Ready to eat food (locally collected)	Food items				
			Rice	Pulse	Oil	Salt	Sugar
1.	Banke	beaten rice-9,659Kg, noodles-8049 packets, biscuit-8049 packets	-	-	-	268 Kg	966Kg
2.	Bardiya	beaten rice-185 Kg, noodles-168 packets, biscuit-168 packets	450 Kg	-	-	105 Kg	25 Kg
3.	Kanchanpur	---	26,800 Kg	-	-	1,341 Kg	-
4.	Doti	beaten rice-265Kg, noodles-	-	-	-	-	-

		515 packets, biscuit-24 packets					
5.	Achham	-	6,400Kg	400 Kg	-	-	-
6.	Kailali	Beaten rice, 62,765Kg,	13,567Kg	17,846Kg	8,996 litre	--	4,153Kg

The NRCS also distributed 1,121 tarpaulins, 620 plastics mats, 820 blankets and 620 water storage jars to fulfill the emergency needs of the disaster affected people.



Beneficiaries affected by the floods in Doti district receiving non-food relief items distributed by Nepal Red Cross Society. Photo: Nepal Red Cross Society.

Following the initial assessment and emergency assistance, the NRCS conducted a detailed assessment of the affected areas and prepared a plan to distribute 4,101 non-food relief item sets to the 4,101 most affected families. The NRCS district chapters involved in this operation have prepared detailed reports of the operation and submitted them to NRCS headquarters.

During the reporting period, the NRCS headquarters made monitoring visits in the disaster affected districts to check the situation in the affected area and supervise the distribution of relief items to the affected people. Kailali and Kanchanpur were identified as the worst-affected districts whose affected population is in need of early recovery programmes. Therefore, the NRCS plans to meet some of the recovery needs (water and sanitation) of the population through its ongoing recovery programme which was launched to respond the shelter, water and sanitation needs of the flood

affected people in these areas during 2008.

The NRCS also organized a lessons learnt workshop on 3-4 March in Nepalgunj. The workshop was crucial to explore learning from the emergency operations, to make recommendations for future actions and to discuss shelter cluster coordination on which the NRCS is taking a lead role.

This DREF supported the NRCS to replenish 4,000 non-food relief item sets and prepare for future disasters. So far, the NRCS has refilled the stocks in the regional warehouses, located at Mahendranagar and Nepalgunj through the central warehouse located at Kathmandu. Similarly, the NRCS has completed procurement of 4,000 non-food relief item sets, with the exception of blankets and printed cloth, due for delivery in April.

Progress towards objectives

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)

Objective: To assist 4,000 families (approximately 24,000 people) affected by floods and landslides with provision of 4,000 sets of non-food relief items to secure their immediate needs and livelihood.

Expected results	Activities
Approximately 4,000 families (24,000 people) affected by floods and landslides have directly received non-food relief items (including a tarpaulin, a blanket, a clothes set and a kitchen set) distributed by the NRCS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop beneficiary list targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute non-food relief item sets to identified 4,000 families affected by

	floods and landslides.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replenish non-food relief item sets distributed.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent field visits from the national headquarters to monitor and evaluate the relief activities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide reporting on relief distributions.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize lessons learned workshop and develop an exit strategy

Progress and impact

Following the initial emergency relief provided to affected communities, the NRCS conducted a detailed field assessment of the affected areas, prepared beneficiary lists, developed a registration system and distributed non-food relief item sets.

So far, the NRCS has completed its target distribution of 4,000 non-food relief items sets supported by the International Federation via DREF to the 4,000 families, covering approximately 24,000 people in the 14 affected districts. Additionally, the NRCS distributed 1,222 tarpaulins, 921 blankets, 101 lady's sarees, 101 units of cloths, 101 kitchen sets and 620 plastic mats and water storage jars from its own stock.

Details of the non-food relief items distribution:

S.N.	Relief Items	Total quantity distributed	Replenishment by DREF	Provided from NRCS stock	Remained in the NRCS stock
1.	Tarpaulin	5,222pieces	4,000 pieces	1,222 pieces	
2.	Blanket	4,921 pieces	4,000 pieces	921 pieces	
3.	Lady's saree	4,101 pieces	4,000 pieces	101 pieces	
4.	Cloth ^a	4101 units	4,000 units	101 units	
5.	Male dhoti ^b	2,329 pieces	2,329 pieces	--	1,671 pieces
6.	Kitchen set ^c	4,101 units	4,000 units	101 units	
7.	Plastic mat	620 pieces	-	620 pieces	
8.	Water storing jar	620 pieces	-	620 pieces	

^a Each unit of cloth totals 16 metre of cloth per family

^b Male dhotis were distributed in Terai belt (southern plain) only, therefore there are still 1,671 pieces dhotis remaining in the NRCS central and regional warehouses.

^c Kitchen set includes 5 pieces cooking pots, 3 pieces thals (dishes), 2 pieces glasses, 2 pieces cups and 2 pieces serving utensils and 1 piece cooking pot cover

Non-food relief items set distribution per district:

S.N.	Affected district	Distributed sets/items	
		^a Non-food relief item set	Additional tarpaulin
1	Acham	280	0
2	Dadeldhura	324	0
3	Doti	475	2
4	Kailali	1,500	923
5	Kanchanpur	586	196
6	Baitadi	188	0
7	Myagdi	32	0
8	Syanja	36	0
9	Arghakhachi	75	0
10	Parbat	49	0
11	Bardiya	40	0
12	Bajhang	250	0
13	Bankey	203	0

14	Dang	63	0
	Total	4,101	1,121

*Non-food relief item set includes tarpaulin, blanket, cloths set and kitchen set

On 3-4 March 2010, NRCS organized a lessons learnt workshop in Nepalgunj to review the floods and landslides operations in 2009. A total of 32 participants attended including:

- NRCS Chairman, secretary general and executive director.
- NRCS disaster management director, deputy director and senior officer.
- Representatives from 14 affected district chapters.
- International Federation country representative .

The participants shared lessons learnt from the operation, addressed a number of key challenges and identified a number of good practices the ways to be followed in the future.

The main lessons learnt from the operation were as follows:

- Pre-meetings and consultations ensured a more effective response.
- Developing a roster of assessment and training tools would facilitate mobilizing volunteers and staff for collecting appropriate information in a timely and effective manner.
- Pre-disaster hazard mapping of the disaster prone VDCs would provide required information for timely response.
- Coordination and collaboration with the government and other non government organizations are important for the effective response.
- Stocking of relief items at local level is very useful to provide immediate assistance to the affected people during a disaster.
- Card system (identity and beneficiary card) is useful for the effective response to the affected people.
- Timely reporting from the field is crucial to maintain proper data of the beneficiaries and facilitate further planning of the response.

Similarly, the workshop made the following recommendations:

- The disaster response capacity of the sub-chapters should be strengthened, as they are the first NRCS units in the communities to respond to a disaster.
- NRCS district chapters should be supported for further infrastructure development.
- Review existing warehouse management guidelines and a separate policy/guideline is needed for the transportation of relief materials in different districts of different geographical areas.
- Proper documentation of each relief operation should be maintained in the national society so that the information can be used to respond to other disasters effectively in the future.

Challenges

During the first few days of the operation, assessments, rescue and relief operations were hampered in some of the affected areas due to the partial or complete breakdown in communication systems and transportation networks. Some areas were inaccessible due to the heavy rainfall; however, the situation improved as flood water levels receded in the affected areas. The NRCS needs to strengthen its response system through district preparedness plans.

Logistics

Objective: To facilitate overall relief operation through provision of effective logistical support such as transportation, volunteer mobilization and other administrative arrangements.

Expected results	Activities
More than 350 NRCS trained volunteers and staff mobilized for providing the humanitarian assistance to approximately 24,000 people (4,000 families).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilization of volunteers in assessments and relief distributions.

Non-food relief items dispatched from the central warehouse to regional warehouses and from regional warehouses to respective district chapters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation of non-food relief item sets. • Management of distribution points. • Management of warehouses. • Other general and administrative arrangements. • Control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
A total of 4,000 non-food relief item sets procured and replenished in the central warehouse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of suppliers for each of the non-food relief items. • Procurement of 4,000 non-food relief item sets.

Progress and impact

The NRCS district chapters in the floods and landslides affected areas mobilized more than 350 volunteers, including district disaster response team members and staff to provide relief assistance to the affected population.

The NRCS carried out the relief operation in the affected areas based on its existing logistics mechanism extended from central to district level.

Initially, the non-food relief item sets were distributed from the stocks maintained at the regional warehouses located at Mahendranagar and Nepalgunj, the western regional hubs. These warehouses have now been restocked with non-food relief item sets from the central warehouse.

So far, with the exception of blankets and printed cloth, the NRCS has completed procurement of the DREF-funded 4,000 non-food relief items including tarpaulin, plastic rope, plastic bucket, kitchen sets and cloth items (jean cloth, plain cloth, lady's saree and male dhoti). Delivery of the final items is expected by 19 April.

Challenges

Frequent road blockades and strikes made difficulty in dispatching the non-food relief items from the NRCS warehouses to the distribution points.

Updated timeline

S.N.	Activities	Timeline (in month)						Remarks
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
Objective 1: To assist 4,000 families (approximately 24,000 people) affected by floods and landslides with provision of 4,000 non-food relief item sets to secure their immediate needs and livelihood.								
1.1	Beneficiary identification and registration.							
1.2	Procurement of 4,000 non-food relief item sets							
1.2	Distribution and or replenishment of non-food relief item sets							
1.3	Monitoring, evaluation and reporting							
1.4	Develop an exit strategy							
Objective 2: To facilitate overall relief operation through provision of effective logistical support such as transportation, volunteer mobilization and other administrative arrangements.								
2.1	Transportation of non-food relief item sets							
2.2	Management of distribution points							
2.3	Management of warehouses							
2.4	Volunteer management and mobilization							
2.5	Maintain communication mechanism							
2.6	Other general and administrative arrangements							

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRNP003 - Nepal - Floods & Landslides

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2009/10-2010/2
Budget Timeframe	2009/10-2010/4
Appeal	MDRNP003
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
A. Budget	307,240					307,240
B. Opening Balance	0					0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
Voluntary Income	307,240					307,240
C6. Other Income	307,240					307,240
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)	307,240					307,240
D. Total Funding = B + C	307,240					307,240
Appeal Coverage	100%					100%

II. Balance of Funds

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance	0					0
C. Income	307,240					307,240
E. Expenditure	-307,239					-307,239
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)	1					1

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure						Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL	
A		B						A - B
BUDGET (C)		307,240						307,240
General Expenditure								
Other General Expenses	287,269							287,269
Total General Expenditure	287,269							287,269
Contributions & Transfers								
Cash Transfers National Societies		287,268					287,268	-287,268
Total Contributions & Transfers		287,268					287,268	-287,268
Programme Support								
Program Support	19,971	19,971					19,971	0
Total Programme Support	19,971	19,971					19,971	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	307,240	307,239					307,239	1
VARIANCE (C - D)		1						1